

May 6, 2025

The Otoe County Board of Commissioners convened in regular session at 8:30 a.m. on May 6, 2025, to audit and sign regular claims and payroll claims and to take care of such other matters as are on the agenda for this meeting. Advance notice of this meeting was published in the Nebraska City News Press and posted in at least three public places, including the County's website. This meeting was open to the Public, and the agenda was kept current, and is on file for public inspection at the office of the Otoe County Clerk during regular business hours.

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Jerad Sornson. Answering present at roll call were Commissioner Sornson, Commissioner Freshman, Commissioner Parsons, Commissioner Crownover, and Commissioner Cole.

Commissioner Sornson informed the public in attendance that a current copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted near the door of the meeting room. Additional copies are available upon request.

Freshman made a motion, seconded by Parsons, to accept the agenda as posted. There being no further discussion, Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Sornson, Freshman, Parsons, Crownover, and Cole. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Crownover made a motion, seconded by Cole, to accept the minutes from the previous meeting and not have them read as each member was furnished with a copy of same. There being no further discussion, Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Freshman, Parsons, Crownover, Cole, and Sornson. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Having reviewed the regular claims in advance of this meeting, Cole made a motion, seconded by Freshman, to approve payment of the regular claims. Voting aye were Parsons, Crownover, Cole, Sornson, and Freshman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Claims Approved May 6, 2025

ADKINS SIGNS	sup	\$80.00
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	sup	\$89.95
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	sup	\$6.84
AMERICAN RECYCLING & SANITATION INC	srv	\$447.61
HOWARD BEBOUT	srv,mileage	\$33.80
CAPITAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS INC	srv	\$176.09
COLIN CAUDILL, SHERIFF	srv	\$79.00
CHARM-TEX INC	sup	\$635.80
COLUMN SOFTWARE PBC	srv	\$36.02
DAS STATE ACCOUNTING-CENTRAL FINANC	srv	\$844.80
DOUG DELHAY	srv,mileage	\$35.20
DOUGLAS TIRE INC	srv	\$900.90
EAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS	sup	\$2,037.91
FIRST WIRELESS INC	sup	\$122.21
GUARDIAN RFID	srv	\$3,500.00
HARDLINE GUNS & GEAR	sup	\$140.00
DANIEL HODGES	srv,mileage	\$47.80
TRAVIS HOGANCAMP	reim	\$18.56
HOMETOWN LEASING	srv	\$284.79
JUNIOR VERNON HUGHES	srv	\$230.00
THE JP COOKE COMPANY	sup	\$37.16

LEADSONLINE LLC	srv	\$1,301.76
CHAD MILLER	reim	\$37.32
ANGELA M MINAHAN DBA REINSCH, MULTICOUNTY INFORMATION PROGRAMMING	srv	\$959.50
NACO	srv	\$2,277.27
NEBRASKA CITY AREA ECONOMIC	reg	\$250.00
NEBRASKA CITY FIRE & RESCUE	cont	\$10,000.00
NEBRASKA CITY NEWS PRESS	srv	\$600.00
NEMAHA COUNTY SHERIFF	sub	\$150.50
CHAD NEUBAUER	srv	\$36.98
OCEMA OFFICE, GREGG GOEBEL DIRECTOR	srv,mileage	\$21.20
ANGELA PARSONS	reim	\$15.00
PINPOINT COMMUNICATIONS INC	srv	\$300.00
QUADIENT LEASING USA INC	srv	\$246.75
QUILL CORPORATION	srv	\$1,154.04
JANIS A. RIEGE	sup	\$37.96
JANIS A RIEGE, CLERK OF D.C.	reim	\$259.99
SCHMITZ LAND SURVEYING INC	srv	\$74.00
ETS DEVELOPMENT GROUP, LLC	srv,mileage	\$3,065.80
SOARIN GROUP LLC	srv	\$1,222.00
SYRACUSE AREA ECONOMIC DEVELOP CORP	srv	\$1,140.00
SYRACUSE AREA HEALTH	cont	\$10,000.00
UKG INC	srv	\$163.01
BILL WALTERS & SON SHOP, INC	srv	\$1,805.01
RICHARD WARNER	srv	\$639.38
SUSAN WELDON	srv,mileage	\$48.50
WESTLAKE ACE HARDWARE INC	reim	\$19.11
CHERI WIRTHELE	sup	\$249.22
ASP ENTERPRISES INC.	srv,mileage	\$42.20
BLACK HILLS ENERGY	sup	\$1,550.00
FRONTIER COOPERATIVE	srv	\$135.13
HELENA AGRI-ENTERPRISES LLC	srv	\$269.05
KURT KASTENS ELECTRIC	srv	\$1,079.20
LANDIS ENGINE CO INC	srv	\$575.86
LANT HARDWARE	sup	\$21.05
MATHESON TRI-GAS, INC	sup	\$217.94
MEESKE AUTO PARTS	srv	\$229.57
MIDWEST ENGINEERING INC	sup	\$68.30
N C UTILITIES	srv	\$41,274.75
OPPD	srv	\$137.83
PAPILLION SANITATION	srv	\$30.48
POMPS TIRE SERVICE INC	srv	\$79.36
RDO TRUCK CENTERS LLC	srv	\$9,978.38
VILLAGE OF OTOE	srv	\$4,146.55
HERBST CONSTRUCTION, INC.	srv	\$22.50
BLUESTREAK K9 LLC	cap outlay	\$95,402.70
LA QUINTA BY WYNDHAM	sup	\$73.00
	srv	\$862.20

JACOB WIRTHELE	reim	\$363.50
TREE CITY TRAILS COMMITTEE	cont	\$30,000.00
VILLAGE OF TALMAGE	cont	\$11,223.15
WINDSTREAM	srv	\$413.98
CENTURY LINK	srv	\$3,601.40
NEMAHA COUNTY	ins	\$78.94
CB PLUMBING SERVICES	srv	\$181.54
SECURITY EQUIPMENT INC	srv	\$554.07
Regular Claims Total \$248,471.37		
Payroll Claims Total \$346,293.06		
Grand Total \$594,764.43		

Freshman made a motion, seconded by Cole, to audit and sign payroll claims. Voting aye were Crownover, Cole, Sornson, Freshman, and Parsons. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Chairman Sornson acknowledged receipt of the monthly report from the Clerk of the District Court certifying fee collections in the amount of \$21,582.51 for the month of April 2025. Said report will be filed in the County Clerk's Office.

Kim Tanner, NPPD Emergency Preparedness Offsite Coordinator, presented an update to the board. She discussed the IPAWS update, preparing for the annual exercise, and a license extension.

Chris Reece, Problem Solving Court Coordinator (PSC), presented a report regarding the Southeast Nebraska Adult Drug Court, a budget request and two interlocal agreements for the program. The FY25-26 full budget request for the five-county area of the Southeast Nebraska Adult Drug Court is \$33,800.00 with Otoe County's portion being 31.03%, \$9937.93. Freshman made a motion, seconded by Cole, to approve the Southeast Nebraska Adult Drug Court FY25-26 budget request of \$9,937.93. Voting aye were Cole, Sornson, Freshman, Parsons, and Crownover. Nay – none. Motion carried. Cole made a motion, seconded by Freshman, to approve an interlocal agreement amongst the Counties of Otoe, Richardson, Johnson, Nemaha, and Pawnee for the Southeast Nebraska Adult Drug Court for July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026. Voting aye were Sornson, Freshman, Parsons, Crownover, and Cole. Nay – none. Motion carried. Crownover made a motion, seconded by Parsons, to approve an interlocal agreement between the Counties of Otoe, Richardson, Johnson, Nemaha, and Pawnee and the Administrative Office of the Courts and Probation, an office of the Nebraska Supreme Court, for the Southeast Nebraska Adult Drug Court for July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2027. Voting aye were Freshman, Parsons, Crownover, Cole, and Sornson. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Melanie Stormer, Chief Probation Officer, presented probation and legislative updates. Ms. Stormer stated that the probation budget request was not complete as of the date of the meeting, but it would be provided in the upcoming weeks.

There was discussion of the health and dental insurance renewal for Plan Year July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026. The BCBS rate will increase by 5.4% for Otoe County. The offered plan will remain \$2600 deductible PPO plan for health/medical and the Premier Option 3 plan for dental. Freshman made a motion, seconded by Cole, to authorize the County Clerk to sign and submit the Blue Cross Blue Shield Health and Dental subgroup application to offer the \$2,600 Deductible Health plan option and the Premier Option 3 Dental plan for the plan year beginning July 1, 2025. Voting aye were Parsons, Crownover, Cole, Sornson, and Freshman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Cole made a motion, seconded by Freshman, to approve Resolution #5-6-25-6 to authorize the transfer of funds to meet budgetary requirements of the County Coroner. The amount of the transfer needed from the General Fund Miscellaneous budget to the County Coroner is \$9,471.00. There was discussion that there have been more coroner expenses this year and that the budget will be increased for the next fiscal year. An additional transfer may be necessary if additional expenses occur from May 1, 2025 – June 30, 2025. Voting aye were Crownover, Cole, Sornson, Freshman, and Parsons. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Freshman made a motion, seconded by Crownover, to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign a plan document between Otoe County and First Concord Benefits Group for Flex Spending Accounts – amended and restated July 1, 2025. Voting aye were Cole, Freshman, Sornson, Parsons, and Crownover. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Parsons made a motion, seconded by Sornson, to consider bidding real estate, personal property, liability, and workers' compensation insurance coverage for the 2025-2026 renewal year. There was discussion of who would review the bids that are returned, and it was stated that Commissioners Parsons and Cole would review a bid from NIRMA if received, and Tom Farrell would review any others received. It was not determined who would be creating, providing, and advertising the Request for Proposal (RFP). Voting aye were Sornson, Freshman, Parson, Crownover, and Cole. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Parsons made a motion, seconded by Crownover, to approve the authorization to conduct an inspection of Haug Communication Tower in the amount of \$7,800.00. The proposed pricing was provided by Capital Tower; CTCI Management Company, Inc. Voting aye were Freshman, Parsons, Crownover, Cole, and Sornson. Nay – none. Motion carried.

There was discussion of the percentage of wage increases for the 2025-2026 fiscal year. Freshman made a motion, seconded by Cole, to approve a percentage wage increase of up to 3% for fiscal year 2025-2026. Employees with salaries set by resolution or contract are excluded from this increase as their salaries are set by such resolution or contract. Voting aye were Freshman, Parsons, Crownover, Cole, and Sornson. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Cole made a motion, seconded by Freshman, to approve the Annual Noxious Weed Report for the 2024 reporting year. Voting aye were Parsons, Crownover, Cole, Sornson, and Freshman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Brian Briley, Road Lead Supervisor, presented the road report.

During public comment, County Clerk, Jenny Bassinger, explained that with the open enrollment system transitioning to an online system it was encouraged for employees to sign-up to speak with an enroller that will be present May 12-15, 2025.

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, and since all items on the agenda have been disposed of Chairman Sornson declared this meeting adjourned at 9:53 a.m. The next regular meeting will be held on May 20, 2025.

I, Jennifer Bassinger, County Clerk of Otoe County, do hereby certify that the above minutes were taken by me, and are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, and I therefore set my hand and affix the county seal this 6th day of May 2025.

Jennifer Bassinger
Otoe County Clerk